
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE STATE OF HAWAII TO SUPPORT THE EFFORTS OF THE HAWAII HEALTH CARE PROJECT AND THE HAWAII HEALTH INFORMATION EXCHANGE TO IMPLEMENT AN EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE, INTEGRATED, TECHNOLOGY-BASED HEALTHCARE INFORMATION SYSTEM.

1 WHEREAS, the Childhood Obesity Prevention Task Force
2 established by Act 269, Session Laws of Hawaii 2012, has found
3 that obesity is a major health and economic concern for Hawaii
4 and the nation, causing higher medical costs and lower quality
5 of life; and
6

7 WHEREAS, in Hawaii adult obesity has more than doubled
8 between 1995 and 2009, and childhood obesity increased by 38
9 percent from 1999 and 2009; and
10

11 WHEREAS, in Hawaii one in three children entering
12 kindergarten is overweight or obese, and one in two adults is
13 overweight or obese; and
14

15 WHEREAS, obesity-related medical expenditures in Hawaii
16 were calculated to be over \$470 million in 2009, and are
17 continuing to rise; and
18

19 WHEREAS, to address the problem of obesity in Hawaii's
20 population, the healthcare system demands an integrated
21 information technology system that provides an efficient means
22 to share clinical and other healthcare-related data about that
23 population residing in various registries and surveillance
24 systems in the State; and
25

26 WHEREAS, Title XIII of Title A of the American Recovery and
27 Reinvestment Act of 2009, the Health Information Technology for
28 Economic and Clinical Health Act, established a program under
29 Medicare and Medicaid to provide incentive payments to eligible
30 providers, hospitals, and critical access hospitals for the



1 "meaningful use" of certified electronic health records
2 technology; and
3

4 WHEREAS, the State already has embarked on an effort to
5 modernize its Medicaid information technology system and is
6 poised to develop the eligibility system for the Hawaii Health
7 Connector utilizing federal funding available for these
8 purposes; and
9

10 WHEREAS, these efforts at improving the Medicare and
11 Medicaid systems through the use of information technology will
12 go far to improving the efficiency of access to a patient's
13 health care information and, consequently, improving the
14 efficiency and quality of patient care; and
15

16 WHEREAS, Section 3013 of the Health Information Technology
17 for Economic and Clinical Health Act also provides for the
18 promotion of health information technology through grants to a
19 State or a qualified state-designated entity; and
20

21 WHEREAS, the State will benefit from the institution of a
22 statewide healthcare information architecture envisioned by the
23 provisions of the Health Information Technology for Economic and
24 Clinical Health Act by the resulting improved quality of care,
25 increased sharing of information needed to diagnose and treat
26 patients, enhanced privacy and security controls of healthcare
27 information, and reduction of redundant healthcare procedures
28 and costs; and
29

30 WHEREAS, the State is committed to the implementation of
31 the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical
32 Health Act and has designated the nonprofit Hawaii Health
33 Information Exchange as the state-designated entity to implement
34 the purposes of the Health Information Technology for Economic
35 and Clinical Health Act; and
36

37 WHEREAS, the Governor of Hawaii has identified improving
38 the State's healthcare system, in total, as an Administration
39 priority and has established the Hawaii Health Care Project,
40 headed by the State's Healthcare Transformation Coordinator, to
41 include representatives from all sectors of Hawaii's healthcare
42 system; and
43



1 WHEREAS, the Hawaii Health Care Project is targeting
2 strategies for significant, positive change in delivering and
3 paying for healthcare in Hawaii that will leverage the power of
4 information technology and data analysis to achieve continuous
5 improvement and determine how public policy and programs can be
6 shaped to support these changes; and
7

8 WHEREAS, in recognizing the importance of an efficient,
9 technology-based healthcare information system, the Hawaii
10 Health Care Project is working directly with the Hawaii Health
11 Information Exchange to meet the objectives of the Hawaii Health
12 Care Project; and
13

14 WHEREAS, the Hawaii Health Care Project and Hawaii Health
15 Information Exchange are reviewing organizational changes,
16 including those that may require administrative action or
17 statutory amendments, that would help expedite the State
18 achieving the objectives of the Hawaii Health Care Project,
19 Hawaii Health Information Exchange, and Health Information
20 Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act; and
21

22 WHEREAS, a successful integrated, technology-based
23 healthcare information system demands a financial sustainability
24 model that allows all entities that benefit from the system to
25 share in the responsibility of maintaining that system; and
26

27 WHEREAS, support for the efforts of the Hawaii Health Care
28 Project and Hawaii Health Information Exchange to implement an
29 efficient and effective, integrated, technology-based healthcare
30 information system is critical to the health and vitality of
31 Hawaii's residents; now, therefore,
32

33 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-seventh
34 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2013, the
35 House of Representatives concurring, that the Hawaii Health Care
36 Project and Hawaii Health Information Exchange ensure that the
37 integrated technology-based healthcare information system is
38 developed with and maintained under a public-private partnership
39 to include those with shared interests in providing data into
40 and receiving data through the system; and
41

42 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all state agencies that collect
43 and maintain healthcare-related data and information cooperate
44 with the Hawaii Health Care Project and Hawaii Health



1 Information Exchange's effort to develop and implement the
2 technology-based healthcare information system to include but
3 not be limited to data housed in registries and surveillance
4 systems; and
5

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Health Care Project,
7 in cooperation with the Hawaii Health Information Exchange,
8 propose a sustainability model that maintains the technology-
9 based healthcare information system and provides for all
10 entities that benefit from the system to fairly share in the
11 financial responsibility to maintain that system to the
12 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
13 the Regular Session of 2014; and
14

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the State should maximize
16 efforts at applying for and receiving federal funding for the
17 development and improvement of technology-based healthcare
18 information systems; and
19

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
21 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Director
22 of Health, Executive Director of the Hawaii Health Information
23 Exchange, and Hawaii Health Care Project.

